

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

Claims 1-37 (Canceled)

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A padlock comprising:

a ~~lock body~~ housing having a first hole and a second hole both in communication with an inside of the housing, the first and second holes both facing in a same direction;

a shackle having a ~~longer arm root section~~ rotatably partly received in said housing via said first hole of said ~~lock body~~ housing, and a ~~shorter arm free section~~ extending from said longer arm root section and being disposed outside said ~~lock body~~ housing; said ~~shorter arm free section~~ being rotatable about said longer arm root section to a locked position and an unlocked position; and

a confining block including a block portion located outside said housing and a stem portion received inside said housing via said second hole and extending from a bottom of said block portion; said block portion ~~rotatably disposed outside said lock body and defining having a~~ receptacle which is outside said housing therein; said receptacle including with a first opening defined in top of said block portion for receiving said ~~shorter arm free section~~ of said shackle when said ~~shorter arm free section~~ is placed in said locked position; and said block portion together with said stem portion being rotatably received in said second hole of said lock body and being rotatable with respect to said housing said block portion simultaneously.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): The padlock of claim 38 further comprising a numeral wheel set disposed in said ~~lock body~~ housing, wherein said numeral wheel set includes:

a shaft being parallel with said stem portion of said confining block and lying diagonally opposite to said block portion of said confining block;

a plurality of inner sleeves in parallel with one another and placed around said shaft; and

a plurality of digit-wheels each mounted around a respective one of said inner sleeves.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): The padlock of claim 38, wherein said receptacle of said block portion of said confining block further includes a second opening defined in a side of said block portion, and said second opening is in communication with said first opening; said ~~confining~~ block portion is rotatable between a first position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is prohibited from entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening, and a second position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is allowed to be rotated about said ~~longer-arm~~ root section of said shackle for entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): The padlock of claim 39, wherein said receptacle of said block portion of said confining block further includes a second opening defined in a side of said block portion, and said second opening is in communication with said first opening; said block portion is rotatable between a first position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is prohibited from entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening, and a second position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is allowed to be rotated about said ~~longer-arm~~ root section of said shackle for entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening.